

MUSC 121-KEYBOARD SKILLS I

exercises and introductory piano literature will be assigned. The course is designed for the student with little or no prior keyboard experience.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. Keyboard Skills courses are an essential part of the music curriculum, for students pursuing either musical arts or music education. This course permits students to gain the basic keyboard skills required for further serious music study. The course is designed for the music student with a limited background in keyboard playing or those whose musical performance area is not the keyboard. It is the first course in a four-semester sequence of keyboard skills, required for music majors as an adjunct to their studies in music theory, musicianship, MIDI and/or composition. The course is also appropriate for those interested in Early Childhood Education and in Music Therapy. Keyboard Skills courses are standard offerings in community colleges and four-year institutions as they are also often desired by many community individuals for personal development and musical enrichment.

B. This class is taught in A-23, our electronic keyboard lab, and is essentially the application of musical skills, knowledge, creativity, and performance at the keyboard.

C. Course transferability: Based on evaluations by the njtransfer.org website, this course transfers to most colleges as an Arts elective or a Free elective or as a keyboard proficiency course for music majors.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective

B. This course serves as a studio arts elective for AA Liberal Arts Majors

C. The course meets a program requirement for AFA Music

D. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; for other colleges and universities, go to the college website.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. Scales

Major Scales from all white keys: 2 octaves hands together with appropriate fingerings, Harmonic Minor Scales from all white keys: 2 octaves hands together with appropriate fingerings.

B. Cadence Pattern (RH: chords, LH: roots)

All Major Cadence Pattern (I-IV-I-V7-I) in root position. All Minor Cadence Pattern (i-iv-i-V7-i) in root position from all the white keys.

C. 3. One Solo Piece

A prepared piece equivalent to J. S. Bach Anna Magdalena Notebook or Burgmüller Op.100 (of any.) Memorization is required.

D. Harmonization

Harmonize the given melody with using I, IV, V7, and the inversions. (Play the melody in RH with the LH block chord accompaniment.) *The excerpt may have the indication by roman numerals or letter symbols, or without any indications. The assignment is given at the exam site.

E. Transposition

Transpose the above Harmonization excerpt up and down a step.

F. Sight Reading

Sight-read a piece that uses intervals up to (and including) an octave and chordal patterns.

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

The student will:

1. develop the skills of keyboard playing (GE 1, 6, *)
2. identify and apply musical terms and notational symbols. (*)
3. develop reading and coordinative skills with beginning repertory and exercises.
4. transpose, harmonize, and sightread.
5. use the keyboard as a basic tool for the study of music theory, composition, arranging, and digital applications.
6. play and perform solo and ensemble pieces.
(*Embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments:

1. Midterm and final exams are practical assignments of sight reading, performing scales, chord progressions, harmonization, and prepared solo repertoire.
2. Chapter reviews of written theory, musical terms, and concepts
3. Weekly progress on assigned materials

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Examinations: performance, sight-reading, harmonization, transposition skills.
- B. Weekly progress and individual effort
- C. Attendance/classroom participation

Formats, modes, and methods that may be used for teaching and learning:

1. Lecture/demonstrations
2. Group instructions and discussions
3. Ensemble playing
4. Individual instruction

VIII. Texts and Materials

A.Text: Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 1, 2nd Edition, Lancaster & Renfrow, Alfred Publishing Co, Inc, 2004

Supplementary materials and/or repertory may be supplied by the instructor.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. Soundproof music studio/classroom with acoustic piano.
- B. Electronic keyboards: Individual student keyboard stations (12) plus the instructor's demonstration keyboard.
- C. Stereo and media systems

X. Check One: ☐ Honors Course ☐ Honors Options ☐ N/A

Definition: According to the Honors Council, an Honors course is one that enriches and challenges students beyond a course's regular scope and curriculum. An Honors course will offer a sophisticated use of research, introduce intellectually stimulating readings and critical perspectives, promote a higher level of critical discussion and written work, and encourage independent study projects, at the option of the instructor.

State how the Honors or Honors Option of this course conforms to this definition. For example: the difference may include additional content, text, materials, assessment instruments, and grade determinants:

The Keyboard Skills I Honors Option will be available for the students who have had some previous piano experience. The curriculum would be more rigorous and will require approximately 5 hours of practice per week. Through the class students will learn more pieces, more complicated exercises, harmonizations and scales.

Honors Option Content:

1. Perform Major and Harmonic minor scales in all the white keys in 4 octaves with correct fingering; metronome quarter note=60
2. Prepare for the final exam two pieces of different styles and composers, the difficulty level such as Mozart: Minuet in D Minor, Gurlitt: op. 117, Haydn: Hob. IX:22 N3 German dance in G Major
3. Hanon "Virtuoso Pianist" N 1-7 book I

